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We believe that the General Assembly has decided that such litigants should seek a judicial remedy by means of an original action instituted under the Public Information Act. Significantly, in providing for the administrative remedy, House Bill 462 selectively refers only to §§251-254 of the Administrative Procedure Act. Thus, it appears that the General Assembly designedly did not make available the judicial review provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, i.e., Code, Article 41, §§255 et. seq. Our conclusion in this regard is buttressed by the significant different remedies which are available under judicial proceedings instituted under the APA on the one hand, and those which would be available under the Public Information Act, as amended by House Bill 462, on the other hand.

In summary, while we approve Hcuse Fill 462 as to constitutionality, we call to your attention the fcregoing significant interpretive problems.

Very truly yours, Francis B. Burch Attorney General

1 It should be noted that the AFA applies only to certain State agencies. Accordingly, with respect to those State agencies not covered by the APA and all local agencies, the administrative hearing provided for in new Section 5(A)(1) would not be available.

House Bill No. 522 - Deeds - Collection of Taxes

AN ACT concerning

Deeds - Collection of Taxes

FOR the purpose of requiring certain-clerks of court the counties and Baltimore City to collect or enter into an agreement with the clerks of the circuit courts of the counties or the Clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore City for the collection of certain taxes upon the filing of certain confirmatory deeds pursuant to the filing with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of certain records of the sale, lease, exchange, or transfer of certain corporate assets; providing for the collection of these taxes at a certain local